



**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**  
15TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT  
BOX 555365  
CAMP PENDLETON, CALIFORNIA 92055-5365

Internet: <http://www.15thmeu.marines.mil>

**For more information:**

15TH MEU CE PAO  
UNIT 42530  
FPO AP 96610-2530

Phone: 619-545-4428 Ext. 7762

**PRESS RELEASE #012-008**

Oct 5, 2012

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**U.S., TIMOR-LESTE FORCES SCHEDULED TO PARTICIPATE IN EXERCISE CROCODILO 2012**

USS PELELIU – The 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, embarked aboard the ships of the Peleliu Amphibious Ready Group, is scheduled to begin training with the Timor-Leste Defense Force (F-FDTL) as part of Crocodilo 2012 in Timor-Leste, Oct. 10.

Crocodilo12 serves as the first exercise scheduled during the MEU's deployment that began on Sept. 17.

Throughout the exercise, forces will participate in various events to include field exercises and community relations activities aimed at strengthening the relationship between the US and Timor-Leste. US Marines, and soldiers from the F-FDTL, will conduct military police training, various small boat exercises, jungle warfare training, several aviation-related evolutions and numerous planning scenarios.

“Training alongside the Defense Forces creates a great opportunity to share knowledge, establish personal and professional relationships, and strengthen our military and civil partnership with Timor-Leste,” said Col. Scott D. Campbell, commanding officer, 15th MEU. “Events like Crocodilo allow us to improve Pacific security, an interest for the United States and our partners in the region.”

Exercise Crocodilo also focuses on humanitarian assistance within Timor-Leste. The MEU/ARG team is scheduled to offer medical and dental assistance to the local populace, as well as participate in the construction and sustainment of local infrastructure.

“In order to further strengthen partnerships and lay a framework for regional security, it is important for us to not only work with the military, but to assist the country with medical, dental and basic engineering needs to support local communities,” said Campbell.

The ships of the PELARG include the amphibious assault ship USS Peleliu (LHA 5), the amphibious landing dock ship USS Rushmore (LSD 47) and the amphibious transport dock ship USS Green Bay (LPD 20).

For more information, contact the 15th MEU Public Affairs Officer, Capt. Justin E. Smith, at 619-545-4428 (ext. 7762) or [justin.smith@peleliu.usmc.mil](mailto:justin.smith@peleliu.usmc.mil).

**-USMC-**